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ABSTRACT

While librarians have traditionally provided story times for 3- to 5-year olds and more recently for toddlers, it is important to introduce children to books and libraries at an even earlier age. Young children's intellectual development is faster than that of any other age group. This book is a guide to developing library programs for babies and toddlers. The first part of the book discusses planning, presenting, and evaluating programs, as well as tips for success; selecting and presenting picture books, oral rhymes, literature and activities; and using alternate media, such as live music, audiotape recordings, videos and film. Fifty-two activity sheets (one for each week of the year) are provided; they incorporate songs, rhymes, fingerplays, and recommended picture books. The book also addresses such practical issues as first-program jitters, handling unruly toddlers, and coping with burnout. A subject guide to the activities, a bibliography of picture books, further reading and resources, and multilingual multicultural resources are provided. (AEF)

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